thereon to the tune of Rs. 555 crores, out of which NPPA has recovered about Rs. 64 crores in 126 cases. In some cases the companies have filed cases against the notices issued by the NPPA in various courts in the country and in some cases, courts have passed interim orders restraining the NPPA from taking further action against the petitioner companies.

Bulk drugs production

1064. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of bulk drugs in terms of tonnage has declined during the last five years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that major drug companies have been allowed entry without setting up bulk drug production plants;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a number of bulk drugs producers have closed down their units;

(d) if so, whether Government are rectifying by making linkage of bulk drugs production to formulation production mandatory;

(e) whether bulk drug production units are proposed to be set up in Bihar; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) (a) to (d) As per the data available with National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in respect of 96 bulk drugs produced in the organized Sector, based on the returns received from the Industry, the production of bulk drug remained almost static during the last five years. There is no provision in the Drugs (Price Control) order to compel bulk drugs production by formulation producer.

(e) and (f) At present there is no proposal for setting up any Public Sector unit in Bihar for bulk drug production.